

CHAPTER 1.1.1.

DEFINITIONS

Article 1.1.1.1.

Buffer zone

means a zone established to protect the health status of aquatic animals in a free country or free zone, from those in a country or zone of a different animal health status, using measures based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration to prevent spread of the disease agent into a free country or free zone.

~~means an area established and maintained using measures based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration, to prevent spread of the disease agent out of the infected zone.~~

~~The buffer zone should be established by the Competent Authority(ies) concerned and subjected to surveillance to confirm there has been no spread from the infected zone.~~

Competent Authority

means the Veterinary Services, or other Authority of a Member Country, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of the aquatic animal health measures or other standards in the Aquatic Code and Aquatic Manual.

~~means the National Veterinary Services, or other Authority of a Member Country, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of the aquatic animal health measures recommended in the Aquatic Code.~~

Free compartment

means a compartment that fulfils the requirements for self-declaration of freedom from disease with respect to the disease(s) freedom from the disease under consideration, according to the relevant chapter(s) in the Aquatic Code.

Free country

means a country that fulfils the requirements for self-declaration of freedom from disease with respect to the disease(s) freedom from the diseases under consideration according to the relevant chapter(s) in the Aquatic Code.

Free zone

means a zone that fulfils the requirements for self-declaration of freedom from disease with respect to the disease(s) freedom from the diseases under consideration according to the relevant chapter(s) in the Aquatic Code.

Infection

means the presence of a multiplying or otherwise developing or latent disease agent in or, for ectoparasites, on a host.

Susceptible species

means a species of *aquatic animal* in which infection by a disease agent can multiply or otherwise develop has been demonstrated by natural cases or by experimental infection exposure to the disease agent that mimics the natural pathways for infection. Each disease chapter in the *Aquatic Manual* contains a list of currently known susceptible species.

Veterinarian

means a person registered or licensed by the relevant Veterinary statutory body of a country to practise veterinary medicine/science in that country.

Veterinary Administration

means the governmental Veterinary Service having authority in the whole country for implementing the animal health measures and international veterinary certification process which the OIE recommends, and supervising or auditing their application.

~~means the National Veterinary Service (or other official entity) in a country having the authority to implement and carry out aquatic animal health measures (i.e. stamping out, fallowing, disinfection etc.), and certification as recommended in the Aquatic Code. (If an authority other than the Veterinary Administration acts as the Competent Authority for matters related to aquaculture and protection of the health of farmed and wild populations of fish, molluscs and crustaceans, the Veterinary Administration nonetheless remains the body that is responsible for liaison with the OIE in terms of Section 1.2. of the Aquatic Code.)~~

Veterinary Authority

means a Veterinary Service, under the authority of the Veterinary Administration, which is directly responsible for the application of animal health measures in a specified area of the country. It may also have responsibility for the issuing or the supervision of the issuing of international veterinary certificates in that area.

Veterinary Services

means the Veterinary Administration, all the Veterinary Authorities, and all persons authorised, registered or licensed by the Veterinary statutory body.

Veterinary statutory body

means an autonomous authority regulating veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals.

Zone

means a portion of one or more countries comprising:

- a) an entire *water catchment* from the source of a waterway to the estuary or lake, or

- b) more than one *water catchment*, or
- c) part of a *water catchment* from the source of a waterway to a barrier that prevents the introduction of specific *disease* or *diseases*, or
- d) part of a coastal area with a precise geographical delimitation, or
- e) an estuary with a precise geographical delimitation,

that consists of a contiguous hydrological system with a distinct health status with respect to a specific *disease* or *diseases*. ~~for which required surveillance and control measures are applied and basic biosecurity conditions are met for the purpose of international trade. All areas of the zone must have the same health status.~~ The zones must be clearly documented (e.g. by a map or other precise locators such as GPS co-ordinates) by the *Competent Authority(ies)*.
